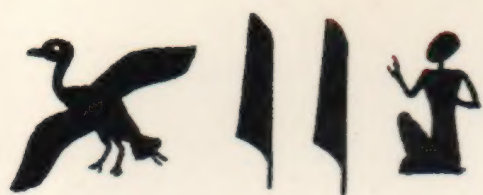


How to read Hieroglyphes



Pai-â

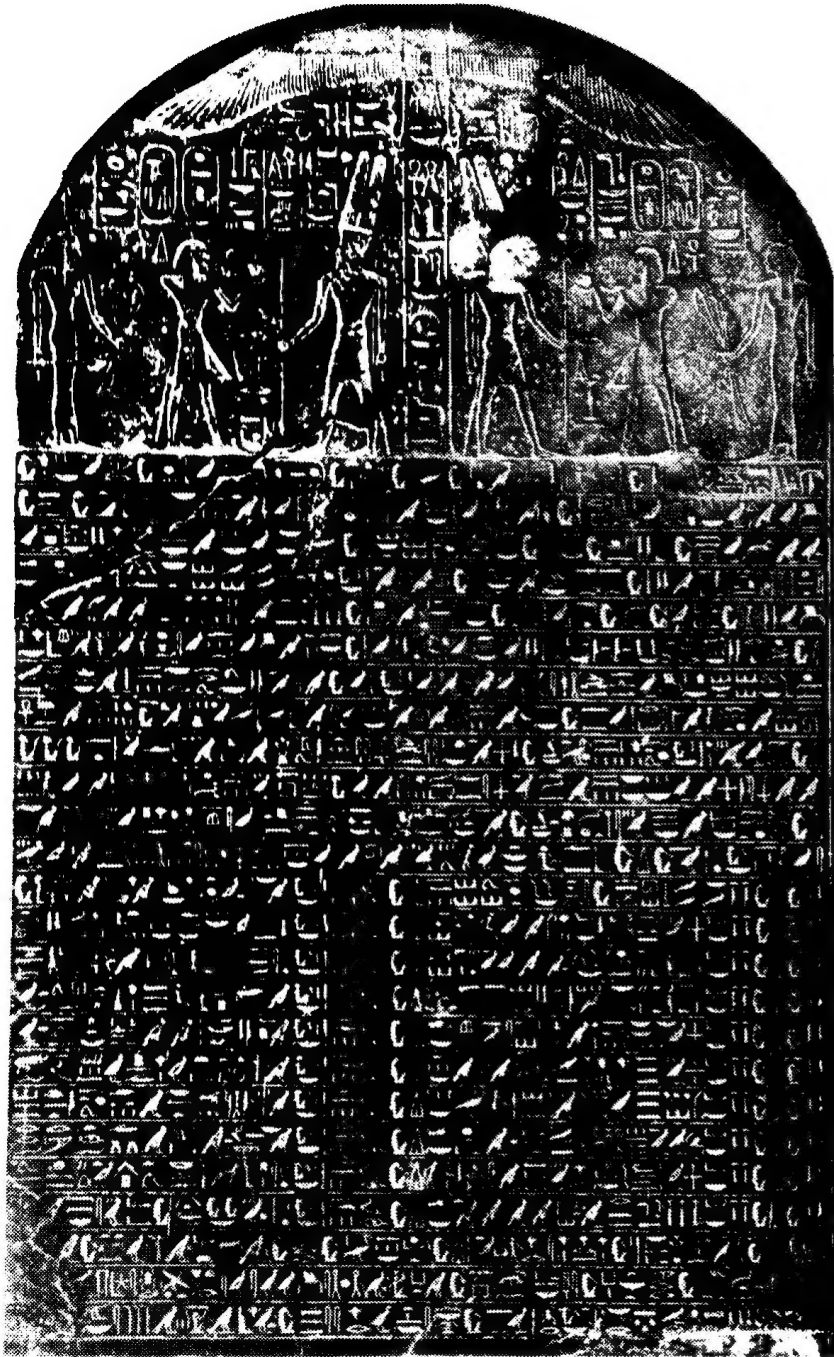


Neb



Nefer





How to read Hieroglyphes

LEHNERT & LANDROCK SUCC. PUBLISH.
CAIRO

The Hieroglyphes

Introduction

The main purpose of this little book is to help the tourist to understand as much as possible about hieroglyphes, this mysterious script that remained in use several thousand years and from which we learnt a great deal of what happened so long ago. As a complete study of hieroglyphes is the work of a life time, we must content ourselves with learning just enough to enable us to decipher the names of some of the more important pharaohs of Ancient Egypt.

Cairo, 27th of march 1974

K. Lambelet

Copyright Lehnert & Landrock Succ., Cairo, Egypt, 1974

There is little doubt that this form of writing has its origin in a picture script such as we can still see on the Narmer Palette.

The most ancient hieroglyphic inscriptions date back from the time of the unification of Upper with Lower Egypt, about 3000 B.C., and the last known inscription is dated 394 A.D.

The time of transition from the picture script to hieroglyphic writing with its enormous number of different signs must have been effected in a relatively very short time of not more than three generations since we find already perfectly precise inscriptions in the 3rd dynasty of King Zoser about 2700 B.C.

Apart from the decorative hieroglyphes on buildings of all kinds and on art objects, a cursive form of hieroglyphes was used and generally employed for writing on papyrus. The difference between this latter form called "hieratic" and the hieroglyphic writing may be compared to that of our type writing and hand writing.

The "Hieratic" writing was used until about 700 B.C. and from then on a simplified modified form was used for popular writing of contracts and protocols; this form of writing is called "Demotic".

The final form of Egyptian writing, originating from the "Demotic" and before the introduction of Arabic in Egypt, is the "Coptic script" using the Greek alphabet by adding a few more letters and specially vowels. The foundation of reading of hieroglyphes is the knowledge of Coptic. This coptic writing is still used to-day for Coptic Liturgy.

HIEROGLYPHES



Pa neter



ynek

COPTIC

ΠΝΟΥΤΕ

Pnoute

(
God
Gott
Dieu

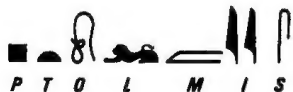
ΑΝΟΚ

anok

(
Ich
Je

The art of reading hieroglyphes had been completely lost for long centuries. It was Champollion (1790–1832 A. D.) who for the first time was able properly to decipher hieroglyphic writing. French soldiers found the famous “Rosetta Stone” a decree of Ptolomaïos V in Greek, Demotic and Hieroglyphic writing. Comparing these different texts and specially the names of “Ptolmees” and “Cleopatra” written in the royal cartouches, he could recognize with certainty a few letters of the hieroglyphic alphabet.

Ptolemy



Cleopatra

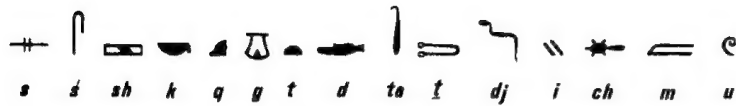


The word “Hieroglyph” has its origin in the Greek and means translated holy script (Hieros=holy, Gluphein=impress).

The old Egyptians were the first to discover an alphabet of 24 letters; if only this alphabet would have been used, hieroglyphic reading would be very easy. But the priests who used and taught the art of hieroglyphs, invented, beside the above 24 letters (Phonetic signs) more than 700 further signs called “Syllabic”.

These syllabic signs could have been written without difficulty with the letters of the hieroglyphic alphabet. In addition to these Phonetic and Syllabic signs, a great number of determinative signs were also used for the following reason. In the hieroglyphic system no short vowels existed similar to those in the Arabic alphabet. For example, if we were to translate into English the two signs D and R, these could read either door or deer. To differentiate then therefore the representation of a door or a deer was added after the word. The hieroglyphic writing was a highly developed system by which everything even grammatical forms could be expressed. No wonder that only the priests and a few scribes mastered perfectly the writing with these numerous signs. The hieroglyphes can be read from right to left, from left to right and also vertically, according to the picture composition, the heads being always turned towards the beginning of the sentence.

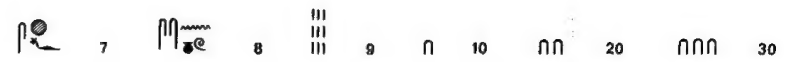
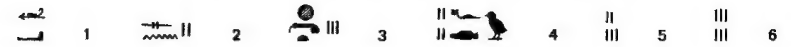
Alphabetic Signs



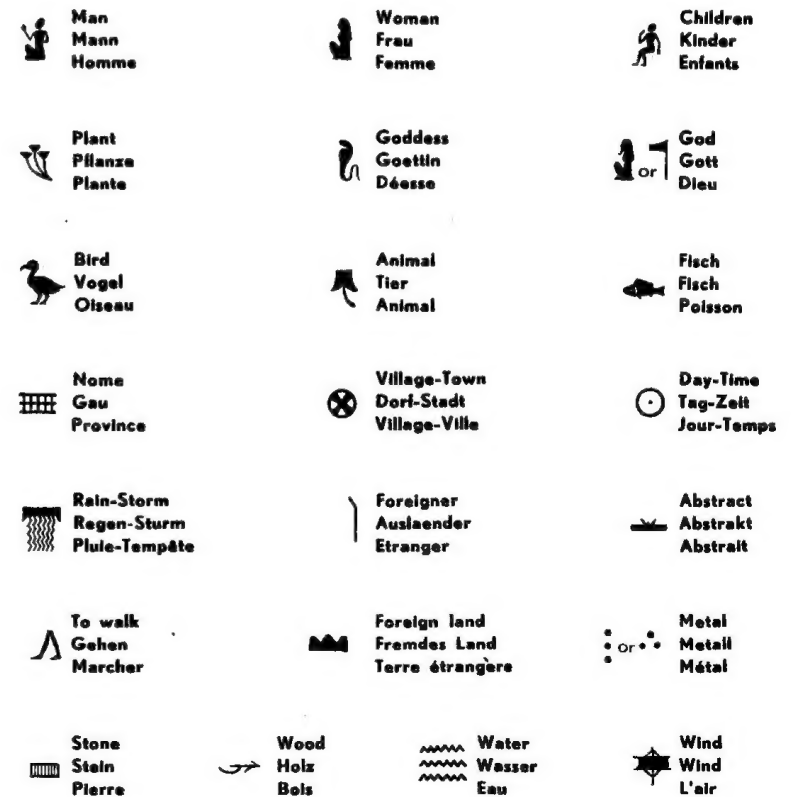
Some Syllabic Signs



The numbers are as follow



A selection of determinative signs



Groups of signs frequently met



=(*Nisut bät*),

King of Upper and Lower Egypt
König von Ober-und Unter Aegypten
Roi de la Haute et Basse Egypte



=(*Neb tau*),

Lord of the two Lands
Herr beider Laender
Maitre de deux pays



=(*Sa Rā*),

Son of the god Rā
Sohn des Gottes Rā
Fils du dieu Rā



=(*Āmen - Rā*),

The god Amen Rā
Gott Amen -Rā
Le dieu Amen- Rā



=(*meri*),

Beloved of
Geliebt von
Aimé de



=(*ānkh djet*),

Who lives eternally
Der ewig lebt
Qui vit éternellement



=(*ānkh djed uas*),

Life stability and enjoyment
Leben, Beständigkeit und Genuss
La vie, stabilité et joie



=(*maā kheru*),

The justified
Der Gerechtfertigte
Le justifié



=(*ānkh udja seneb*),

Who lives, strong and healthy
Der lebt, stark und gesund
Qui vit, fort et sain



=(*hem - f*),

His majesty
Seine Majestaet
Sa majesté



=(*ses*),

The scribe
Der Schreiber
Le scribe



=(*nefer āa*),

The great god
Der grosse Gott
Le grand dieu



=(*nefer nefer*),

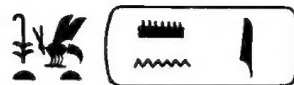
The good god
Der gute Gott
Le bon dieu



=(*renpet*),

Year
Jahr
Année

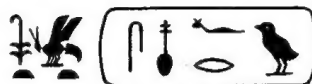
Some Names of Famous Kings



Menā (Menes).



Per-āb-sen.



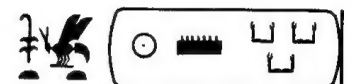
Seneferu .



Khufu (Cheops).



Khâ-f-Râ (Chephren).



Men-kau-Râ (Mycerinus).



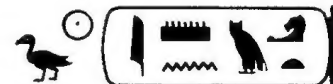
Sahu-Râ.



Unas.



Maât-n-Râ, Āmen-m-hat III,

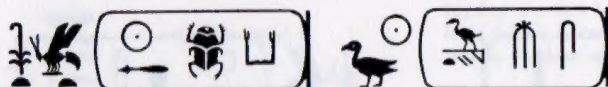


Neb-pehti-Râ, Āah-mes I (Amasis).





Djeser-ka-Rä, Ämen-hotep (Ameno-phs) I.



Äa kheper-ka-Rä, Thothmes I.



Äa-kheper-n-Rä, Thothmes II, Nefer-khäu.



Maät-ka-Rä, Hat-shepsut — chnem-Ämen (Hatshepsut).



Men-kheper-Rä, Thothmes III.



Äa-kheperu-Rä, Ämen-hotep II - neter-heqa-Ännu.



Men-hheperu-Rä, Thothmes IV — khä-khäu.



Neb Maät Rä, Ämen hotep III-heqa Wast.



Nefer-kheperu-Rä-uä-n-Rä, Ämen-hotep-neter-heqa-Wast (Amenophis IV)



Akh-n-äten (Akhenaten)



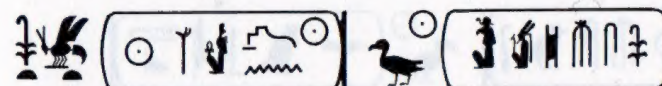
Neb-kheperu-Rä, Tut-änkh-Ämen-heqa-Ännu-resu.



Djeser-kheperu-Rä-setep-n-Rä, Ämen-meri-Herun-m-heb.



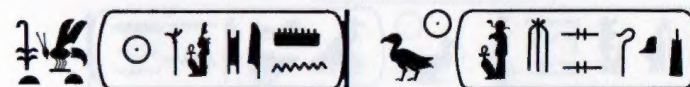
Men pehti-Rä, Rä-messu (Rameses I).



User-Maät-setep-n-Rä, Rä-messu-meri-Ämen (Rameses II).



Ba-n-Rä-meri-Ämen, Ptah-meri-n-hotep-her-Maät (Menephthah).



User-Maät-Rä meri Ämen, Rä meses-heqa-Ännu (Rameses III).



Kheper-hadj-Rä-setep-n-Rä, Ämen-meri- Shashanq (Shishak I).



Sekhem-kheper-Rä-setep-n-Rä, Ämen-meri- Usärken (Osorkon I).



Ämen-meri-Pänkhi, Pänkhi.



Rä-nefer-ätem-khu, Taherq (Tirhakah).



Uah äb Rä, Psemthek (Psammetichus I).



Mesut Rä, Kombätet (Cambyses).



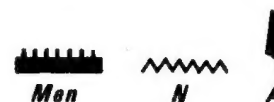
Setetu-Rä, Äntariusha (Darius Hystaspes).



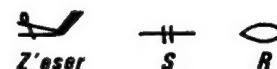
Setep-n-Rä-meri-Amen, Aleksändres (Alexander the Great).

Decipher the names of the following Kings

MENA 1. Dyn. 3000 a.c.



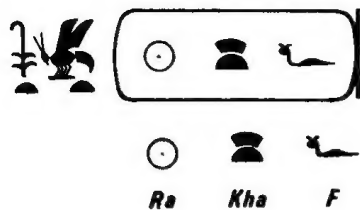
DZESER (Zoser) 3. Dyn. 2778-2723 a.c.



KHEOPS (Chufu) 4. Dyn. 2723-2563 a.c.



Kephren (Kafra) 4.Dyn.
2723-2563 a.c.



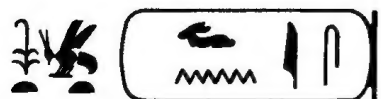
Ra Kha F

MYKERINOS (Menkaura) 4.Dyn.
2723-2563 a.c.



Ra Men Kau

UNAS 5.Dyn. 2563-2423 a.c.



U N A S

Senusert I (Usertsen Kheper-Ka-Ra) 12.Dyn. 1971-1928 a.c.



Ra Kheper Ka User S R T S N

Thotmes III (Tetmes Men Kheper Ra) 18.Dyn. 1505-1450 a.c.



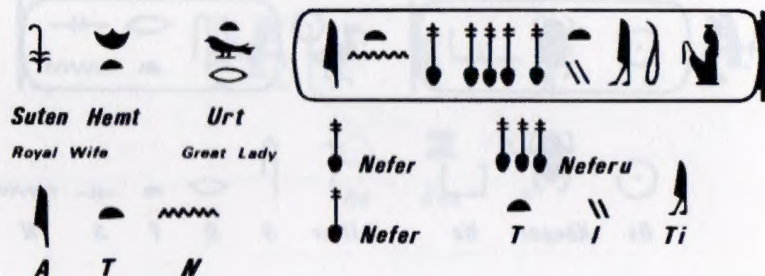
Ra Men Kheper That Mes S

Amenophis II (Amenhotep Ah Kheperu Ra) 18.Dyn. 1450-1425 a.c.

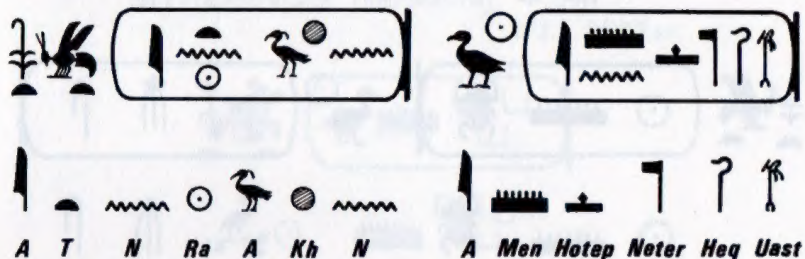


Ra Ah Kheper U A Men Hotep Neter Heq Annu

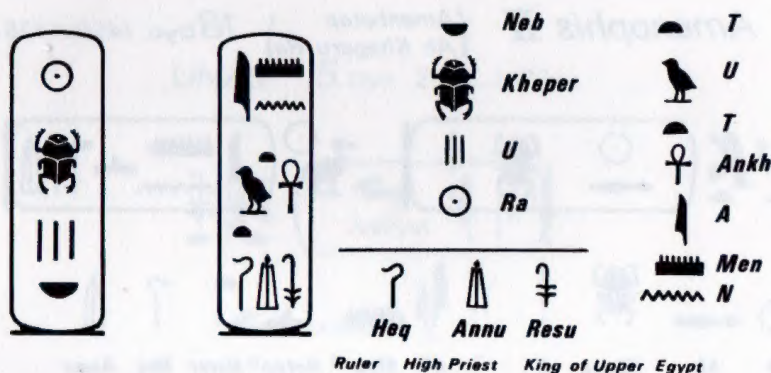
Nefertiti (Nefer Neferu - Aten) 18.Dyn. 1372 - 1354 B.C.



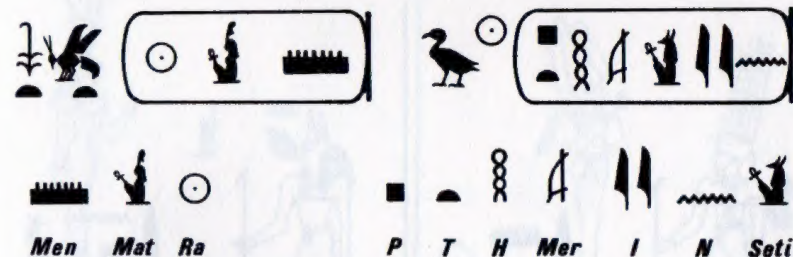
Echnaton (Ahenaten Ra Amen Hotep Neter Heq Uast) 18.Dyn. 1372 - 1354 B.C.



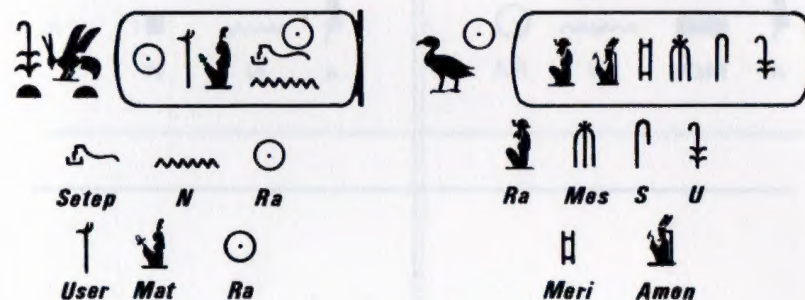
Tut Ank Amen 18.Dyn. 1354 - 1345 B.C.
(Neb Kheperu Ra)



Seti I (Ptah - Meri - En - Seti) 19.Dyn. 1312 - 1298 B.C.
Men - Mat - Ra



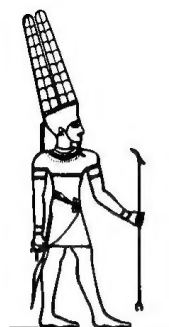
Ramses II (User - Mat - Ra Setep - en - Ra) 19.Dyn. 1298 - 1235 B.C.
Ra - messu meri - Amen



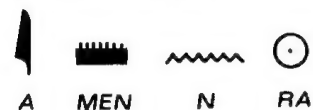
Alexander the Great Ptol. 311 B.C.
ALEKSANDRES (Setep - en - Ra - meri - Amen)



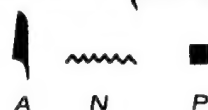
Best known Egyptian Gods



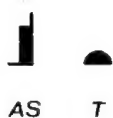
AMEN - RA



ANUBIS (ANPU)



ISIS (ASET)



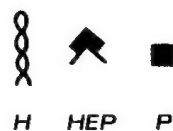
OSIRIS (ASAR)



PTAH



HAPI



THOT (TEHUTI)



MAAT





HORUS (HERU)



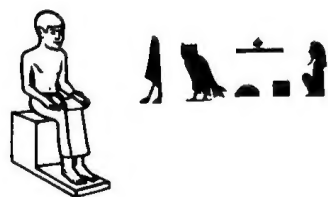
HERU



HATHOR



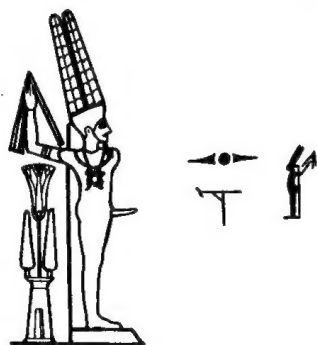
HET HERU



IMHOTEP



I EM HOTEP T P



MIN (AMSU)



AM SU

Lehnert & Landrock Succ. Publish., Cairo

Sets of 12 colour transparencies of:

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Cairo Mosques
Memphis and Sakkara
Luxor - Karnak - Thebes
Sound & Light at Karnak
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Rock Temple of Abu Simbel
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